



U.S. ARMY FAMILY ADVOCACY PROGRAM

FAP Mission [According to: AR 608-18, The Army Family Advocacy Program]

PREVENTION:

Teamwork Strengthens Community Capacity

Unit leaders, FAP, Soldiers and family members build the capacity of the community to help Soldiers and families reduce stress, reach Army expectations and prevent child and spouse abuse.

INTERVENTION:

Safety Is Paramount

Everyone has the right to feel safe at all times. Protection of victim Soldiers and family members is vital. Leaders have help with this via the Case Review Committee (CRC) and victim advocates.

All suspicions or concerns about child and spouse abuse must be reported.

"Leaders at all levels must be personally engaged in the effort to end domestic violence and use all programs and resources at their disposal to meet our important responsibilities to Soldiers and their families to eliminate domestic violence and protect victims. Central to our success in this endeavor is increasing the life skills of Soldiers and families." —General Eric K. Shinseki, U.S. Army, DoD Memorandum, May, 2003

PREVENTION

- ★ **Promote Army standards and FAP mission.** [1.1; 1.5; 1.6]
 - Prevention of family violence enhances family well-being
 - Family violence is not compatible with Army values
 - Victims will be offered immediate safety and support
 - Case Review Committee (CRC) and other community staff are professionally trained to intervene in abuse and determine the treatment plan
- ★ **Create a climate that encourages Soldiers and their families to ask for assistance prior to becoming a readiness issue** [1.5]

Some Soldiers and families express reluctance to use programs and services and to turn to anyone if faced with a problem or challenge. Unit leaders need to create a climate where Soldiers are not afraid to seek help.
- ★ **Provide current information about installation programs and services to Soldiers and families, and about community activities that “bring families together.”**
- ★ **Attend annual troop education briefing on FAP.** [1-8b(2)]
- ★ **Encourage family members to attend FAP educational briefings that are provided to the military community.**

INTERVENTION

- ★ **Report suspected spouse and child abuse** to the designated RPOC on the installation and provide all relevant information to those investigating the report, including law enforcement agencies and Child Protective Services. Military Police and law enforcement are available 24/7. [1-8b(4); 3-4a and c]
- ★ **Support and assist in implementing safety measures recommended by the CRC.** [1-8b(8); 3-21d]
- ★ **Know the reporting and intervention process for managing reports of child and spouse abuse.** [2-4]
- ★ **Provide services for Soldiers and families on both scheduled or early returns from deployment if there are family problems that arise while the Soldier is away or if there is an active abuse case.**

“Violence is not compatible with our core values. It is contrary to everything we believe in as an organization: respect, honor, integrity, personal courage. If our families are in trouble so too is soldier and unit readiness.” ... “We must empower soldiers to recognize risk factors in their own lives and encourage them to seek help before violence occurs.” —General Robert L. Decker, Commander of U.S. Army Community and Family Support Center, January, 2003

FAP PROGRAMS

Prevention

- ★ New Parent Support
 - Information and classes for all new and expecting families
 - Home visits for parents identified as needing extra support
- ★ Parenting Classes
- ★ Marriage/Relationship Workshops
- ★ Stress Management Classes
- ★ Anger Management Classes
- ★ FAP Community Briefings
- ★ Victim Advocacy Support
- ★ Emergency Housing

Intervention

- ★ Crisis Intervention
- ★ Counseling
- ★ Support Groups

The Army culture does not condone family violence and has many resources to assist families. Failure to pay attention to Soldier and family problems may have serious consequences.

SOLDIERS & FAMILIES SHARE COMMUNITY RESPONSIBILITY

Stay informed about programs and services

Have positive perceptions about the Army's lifestyle, organizational commitments, and traditional values

Achieve a balance between work and family

Recognize that seeking assistance signals strength rather than weakness

Establish networks within the community

Develop the capacity to solve problems and manage conflict

ARMY COMMUNITY SERVICE PROGRAMS

Army Emergency Relief (AER)

Army Family Team Building (AFTB)

Army One Source

Deployment Support Cycle

Employment Readiness Program

Exceptional Family Member Program (EFMP)

FAMILY ADVOCACY PROGRAM (FAP)

Financial Readiness Program

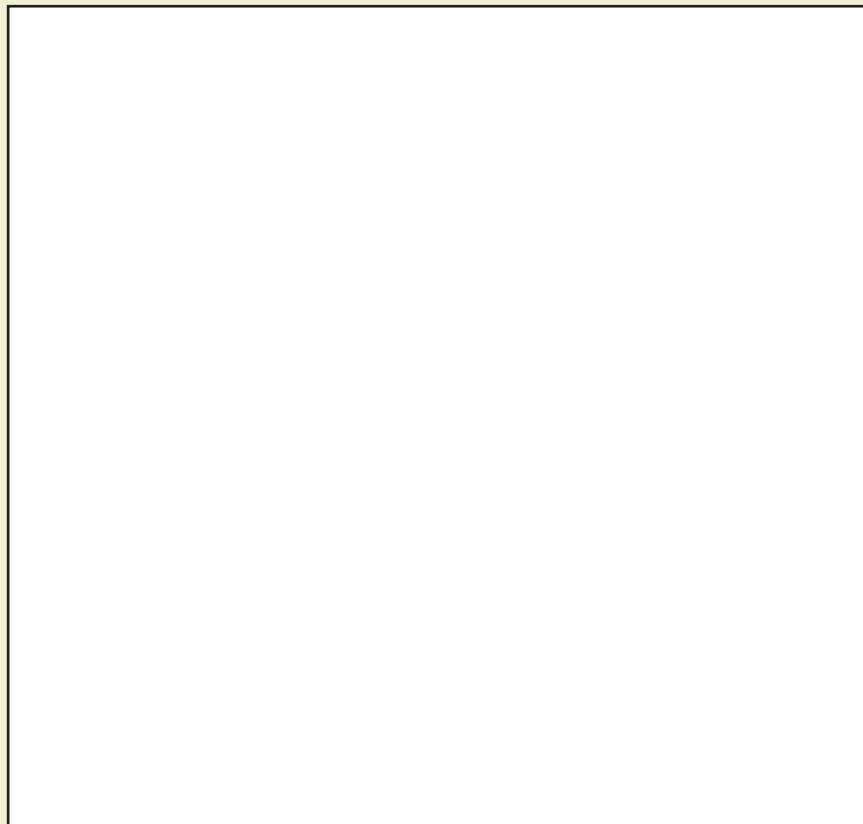
Mobilization and Deployment Support

Relocation Readiness Service

Spouse Orientation Leadership Development (SOLD)

[Check local installation programs and services.]

"Army readiness is inextricably linked to the Well-being of our People. Our success depends on the whole team—Soldiers, civilians, families—All of whom serve the nation. Strategic responsiveness requires that our support structures provide Soldiers and families the resources to be self-reliant both when the force is deployed and when it is at home." —General Eric K. Shinseki, Chief of Staff of the Army, June 22, 1999



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